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LECTOTYPIFICATION OF *CONVOLVULUS WHELERI* (CONVOLVULACEAE)

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ABSTRACT

Although a specimen at the Natural History Museum of Denmark (C) is labeled as the holotype of *Convolvulus wheleri* Vahl, that is an error. This name was based on an uncited specimen from Spain and Vahl listed Plukenet's polynomial *Convolvulus Sagittariae foliis, flore purpureo, Wheleri* in synonymy. Because there is a specimen for the Plukenet name, the Vahl binomial is based on syntypes. Both specimens are discussed and the sheet at C, collected in 1762 at Lago La Albufera, Valencia, Spain, by *Barnades*, is selected as lectotype of *Convolvulus wheleri*.

When Vahl (1791, p. 36) proposed the name *Convolvulus wheleri,* he cited no specimen but wrote that the plants were "*In Hispanum juxta lacum la Albufeda Valentiae.*" McDonald (1994, p. 106) listed a specimen in the Vahl herbarium at Copenhagen labeled "*Ex incultis juxta lacum La Albufeda Valentiae*" as the holotype in *Flora de Veracruz*, based on the assumption that this was the only original material for *C. wheleri* available (Fig. 1). In calling the specimen a holotype, McDonald, like many others, was unaware of a Wheler collection at BM that was annotated with the phrase name "*Convolvulus Sagittariae foliis, flore purpureo, Wheleri"* by Plukenet (1691, p. 113, tab. 85. f. 3), a name cited in synonymy by Vahl. That particular specimen was noted by Britten (1894, p. 170) who recognized it as the "type" of the Plukenet polynomial. Moreover, Britten said that the specimen was in the Sloane herbarium (BM) in the Hort. Sicc. Vol. 91, fol. 57 (Fig. 2).

While the first author was working on a study of the introduction of *Ipomoea sagittata* Poir. into the Mediterranean (Austin, in press), he discovered the Britten comment and realized that the Vahl sheet was not a holotype. Consequently, the Vahl name is clearly based on syntypes. In spite of the fact that *C. wheleri* is an illegitimate, superfluous name for *Ipomoea sagittata* Poir. and now widely cited in synonymy, a lectotype needs to be selected from the syntypes. We do that here.

Ipomoea sagittata Poir., Voyage en Barbarie 2: 122. 1789. **TYPE: ALGERIA.** Nous avons trouvé cette plante avec M. Desfontaines, près du Bastion de France & sur les bords du lac infect qui en est peu distant, dans le voisinage du Souk [from protologue], *Desfontaines* s.n. (holotype: P).

Convolvulus wheleri Vahl, Symbolae Botanicae 2: 36. 1791, nom. illeg. superfl. **LECTOTYPE** (designated here): **SPAIN. VALENCIA.** Ex incultis juxt. Lacum La Albufera, 1762/8, *Dr.* [*Miguel*] *Barnades s.n.* (C, barcode no. C10009688!). Syntype as cited below.

Figure 1. Lectotype of *Convolvulus wheleri* Vahl collected in Valencia by *Barnades*. On the back of sheet is written "August 1762. Ex incultis juxt. Lacum La Albufera Valentiæ." With permission of the Natural History Museum of Denmark (C).

Figure 2. Syntype of *Convolvulus wheleri* Vahl collected by Sir George Wheler in Zante [Ζάκυνθος], 24 to 28 July 1675. Annotated by Leonard Plukenet with *Convolvulus Sagittariae foliis, flore purpureo, Wheleri, in Inventore habui*. Sir Hans Sloane added the "R. H. 1882." The pencil notes were written by James Dandy. With permission of the Natural History Museum (BM).

Syntype of *Convolvulus wheleri* Vahl. **GREECE.** [Zante, 24–28 Jun 1675, *George*] *Wheler s.n.* (BM). *Convolvulus Sagittariae foliis, flore purpureo, Wheleri ab Invetore habui* Plukenet, Phytographia, tab. 85, f. 3. 1691. *Convolvulus vulgaris major, flore amplo, dilute purpureo* Plukenet, Almagestum botanicum, 113. 1696.

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